

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Americans to visit the National Museum of the American Indian when in Washington, DC, and I urge my colleagues to show their support for this very worthy resolution.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate our first Americans on this, the long awaited opening day of the National Museum of the American Indian. If, indeed, the last shall be first, this is a fine example as this museum dedicated to our first Americans is located on the last spot open on the National Mall.

This is a joyous day. At this very moment, thousands of native Americans who traveled from all the corners of our country, Canada, and South America are participating in a procession on the Mall leading to the museum itself. They are dressed in unique traditional attire, stopping along the way to celebrate with dance, song, and drums.

I am honored to say that as a member of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, I worked with then Chairman Mo Udall on the legislation to build a museum devoted solely to the culture, art, and history of our Native Americans. Although Mo is no longer with us, I am certain that he is smiling down upon us today.

I encourage everyone to visit this magnificent National Museum of the American Indian and use its resources to learn about the rich history and legacy of Native Americans, as well as contemporary Indian life. I promise your lives will be enriched by the experience.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of today's opening of the National Museum of the American Indian—a historic event that is long overdue. My congressional district contains lands of the Navajo Nation, the Southern Utah Paiutes, and the Northern Ute Indian Tribe—people who understand all too well the atrocities that Native Americans have experienced at the hand of our Federal Government.

The opening of this museum is a bold step toward the United States becoming a nation that understands the history of its people and celebrates the uniqueness of native cultures in its society. My hope is that the museum will help foster and maintain this understanding for “as long as the rivers shall run and the grass shall grow.”

The designing of the National Museum of the American Indian was indicative of the cooperative and inclusive process that the Federal Government should always use when working with Native American tribes. I am proud of the collaborative efforts of all of the people who worked to make this museum a success, and I welcome the many Utahns who join me in celebrating this joyous occasion.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. McCOTTER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. EHLERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate joint resolution, S.J. Res. 41.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate joint resolution was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S.J. Res. 41.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Mr. REYNOLDS (during debate on Senate Joint Resolution 41), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-692) on the resolution (H. Res. 780) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2028, PLEDGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2004

Mr. REYNOLDS (during debate on Senate Joint Resolution 41), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 108-693) on the resolution (H. Res. 781) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2028) to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the jurisdiction of Federal courts inferior to the Supreme Court over certain cases and controversies involving the Pledge of Allegiance, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

UNSCRUPULOUS TACTICS ON MILITARY BASES

(Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) of the Committee on Financial Services for his leadership in addressing the unscrupulous tactics of life insurance salesmen at our military bases.

During a recent Committee on Financial Services hearing, we learned that greedy insurance companies are selling enlisted men as young as 19 years of age expensive life insurance policies which actually pay out less than \$30,000. These young men and women are forced to attend “financial courses” held by these salesmen who are usually former military men, men that these young men and women look up to.

Young GIs, who are being taught to trust their commanding officers, are

deceptively told they are enrolling in savings accounts and are given papers that they are not permitted enough time to look over. They are ordered to sign here without question.

Protecting those who protect us certainly is a bipartisan priority, and I look forward to working with the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) and the other members of this committee on this very important issue.

HONORING TOM JOYNER

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to salute our friend Tom Joyner of the Tom Joyner Morning Show for his national campaign of Take a Loved One to the Doctor.

Today, in my congressional district, I had the pleasure of visiting two of our large multi-service centers that are in our communities that hosted health fairs in order for the community to come to medical professionals.

Mr. Speaker, 44 million people in America are uninsured. Our children are losing the valuable CHIPS program in Texas and many other States. This administration is cutting the dollars for children's health insurance programs, and that is why I applaud Tom Joyner for sending out a message all over the Nation for those who are uninsured to come and be tested this day.

I put the phrase, Take a Loved One to the Doctor, but Love Yourself and Go to the Doctor. Mr. Speaker, it is time to focus on the needs of health care of all Americans. We thank Tom Joyner for his understanding and leadership, reaching out with his media to ensure and enhance the life and opportunities of good health for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Tom Joyner and the Tom Joyner Morning Show and the staff for their good efforts.

THREE TRILLION IS A BIG NUMBER

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, 3 trillion is a very, very big number. Astronomers think there may be a tenth planet 3 trillion miles from the earth. Astronomers are using the biggest telescopes on earth to peer into the darkness of space. Something out there is causing a wobble in passing comets 3 trillion miles away.

But here on earth, the President's plan to spend \$3 trillion over the next 10 years is causing a wobble in the U.S. economy and a black hole in the budget deficit.

Mr. Speaker, Members do not need binoculars to see it or astronomers to explain it. It is not a tenth planet; it is